

Wiki Uses and Applications

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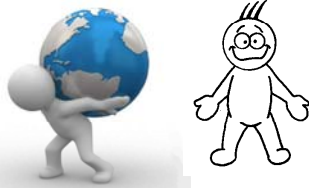
Content Overview

1. Define wiki—a collection of Web pages or documents that can be easily viewed and quickly updated. It is a writing and resource sharing site that many people can build upon and change. Speed, simplicity, and sharing on the fly.



Content Overview

2. Theory behind wikis: Participatory or contributory learning. Let the students generate learning instead of receive it. Time names "You" as the "Person of the Year."

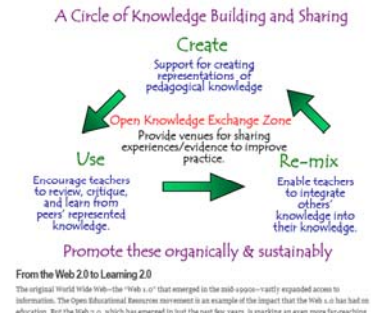


Content Overview

3. More Wiki theory—aligns with social constructivist approach to learning. Highly collaborative, with no ownership.. Factual knowledge versus student constructing knowledge decision.

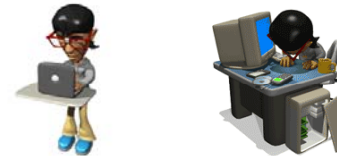


Participatory Learning



Content Overview

4. Advantages (easy access for collaborative production, easy to change, can see the process and contributions).
5. Challenges (learning curve, digital divide issues (e.g., proxy servers), familiarity, etc).



Wiki Training in YouTube (e.g., "Wikis in Plain English")

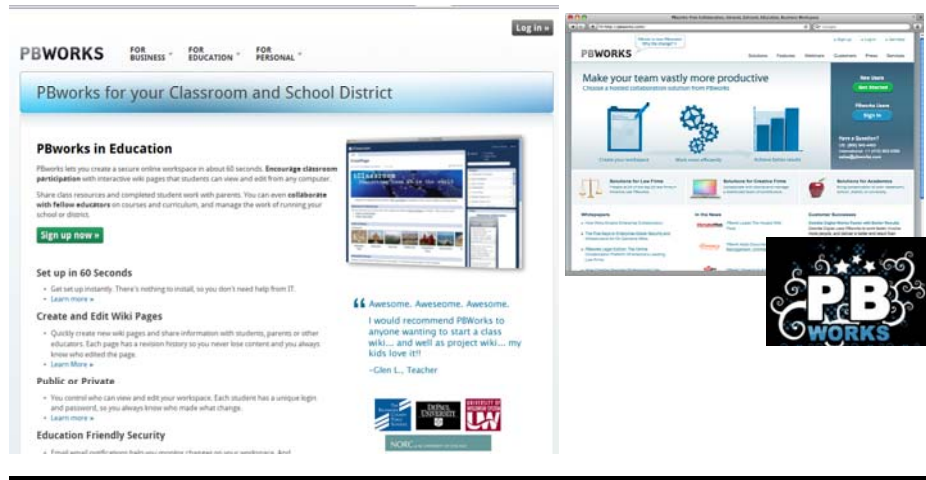


Content Overview

6. Why and how use (rationale).
7. Types of wikis: hosted (e.g., PBworks, Wikispaces), server-based.
8. Costs—free to paid services or use the wiki in your CMS.

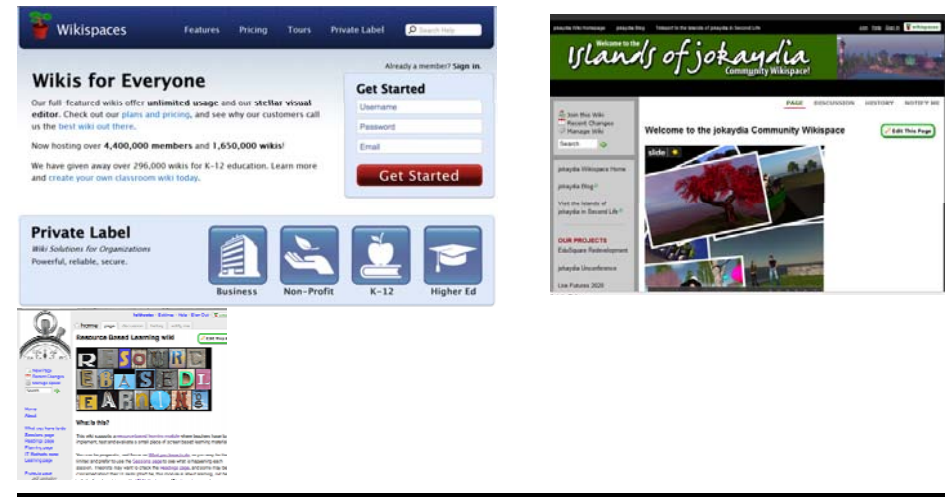


Wiki Service: PBworks



The screenshot shows the PBworks website with a navigation bar for Business, Education, and Personal use. The main heading is "PBworks for your Classroom and School District". Below this, it highlights "PBworks in Education" with a quote from a teacher: "Awesome. Awesome. Awesome. I would recommend PBworks to anyone wanting to start a class wiki... and well as project wiki... my kids love it!" attributed to "Clen L., Teacher". The site also mentions "Set up in 60 Seconds" and "Create and Edit Wiki Pages". A "PBWORKS" logo is visible in the bottom right corner of the screenshot.

Wiki Service: Wikispaces



The screenshot shows the Wikispaces website with a navigation bar for Features, Pricing, Tours, and Private Label. The main heading is "Wikis for Everyone". It highlights "Wikis for Everyone" with a quote: "Our full featured wikis offer unlimited usage and our stellar visual editor. Check out our plans and pricing, and see why our customers call us the best wiki out there." It also mentions "Now hosting over 4,400,000 members and 1,650,000 wikis!" and "We have given away over 296,000 wikis for K-12 education." Below this, it lists "Private Label" solutions for Business, Non-Profit, K-12, and Higher Ed. A "Get Started" button is prominent. On the right, there is a preview of a "Islands of Jokaydia" community wiki page.

Content Overview

9. Student generated wiki applications:

- Progress journals,
- Group or class essays,
- Revising Wikipedia pages,
- Glossaries,
- Debates,
- Lesson plans.



Content Overview

9. Student generated wiki applications:

- Team projects,
- Writing wikibooks,
- Free writing,
- Sharing resources,
- Assignment review or submission,
- Prepublish research findings.



Content Overview

10. Instructor wiki applications:

- a. Course notes, agenda, syllabus, announcements,
- b. FAQs,
- c. Contact details,
- d. Papers, research collections, pictures and figures,
- e. Sharing other resources (blogs, websites, conferences, etc.).



Content Overview

11. Consider PBL and assigning relevant and meaningful activities.

12. Why are wikis popular—extend class, class is a constant process of becoming, student interaction and participation, resource sharing, etc.



CLICK HERE
TO VIEW
RELEVANT
MESSAGES

Content Overview

13. Wikis as a transformative teaching and learning tool.

14. Organizing cross-institutional and international projects. Coordinating schedules is particularly difficult.



Cross-Institutional Wikibook Project (e.g., IU and the University of Houston)



Content Overview

- 15. Wiki document or resource authority lies in the community, not the individual.
- 16. Wiki document permissions can be set for potential readers and contributors.



Content Overview

- 17. Student topic selection issues.
- 18. Technology skills required are limited.
- 19. Wiki history page allows for reversal of changes.



Content Overview

- 20. Issues of wiki quality.
- 21. Instructor versus student control issues.
- 22. Decisions about Wikipedia and Wikibooks.

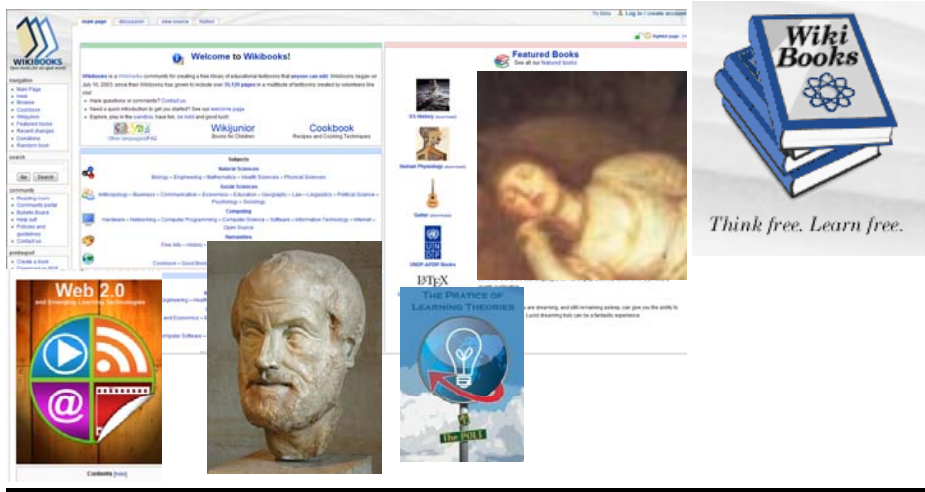


Wikipedia (Jimmy Wales, Founder)



"HEY! LOOK WHAT I CAN DO!!"

Wikibooks Website



Wikimedia Foundation

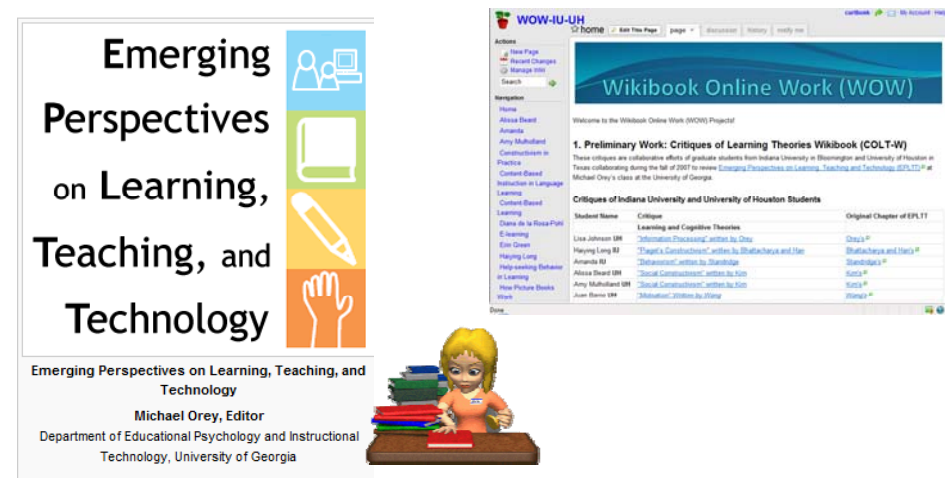


Examples of Online Visuals

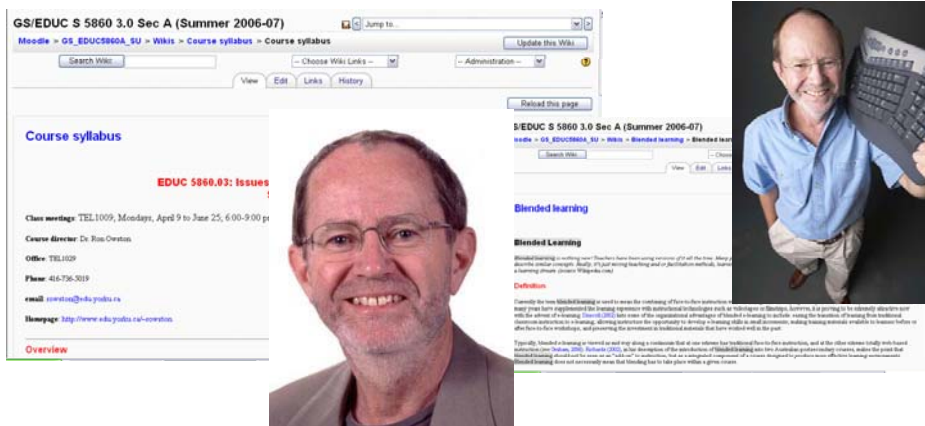
1. University of Georgia example.
2. IU-Houston example.
3. York University example.
4. Israel course glossary example.



Wikibook Critiques and Editing



Wiki Syllabus and Lesson Plans (Ron Owston, York University)



Advice and Guidelines

1. Start small. Expand use over time.
2. Explain the project to the students, set ground rules, and be clear about expectations—student roles, activities, and assessments, how credit is awarded for anonymous contributions, etc.



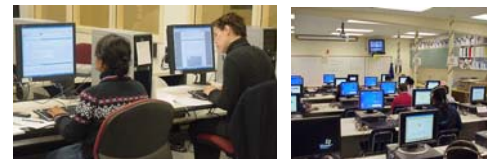
Advice and Guidelines

3. Ask students what types of wiki tools and activities they are familiar with.
4. Talk to other instructors and colleagues who may have used wikis in their classes.



Advice and Guidelines

5. Support students: Include job aids or scaffolds on the wiki activity as well as the technology.
6. If you have a FTF class, demonstrate the wiki or take to a computer lab. Also model the use of the wiki. Do not just expect students to use it.



Advice and Guidelines

7. Conduct formative evaluation on how the wiki task is working.
8. Archive prior semester wiki projects as examples.
9. Consider researching your use of wikis in the classroom and sharing the results with colleagues.



Advice and Guidelines

10. Hold competitions at the end of the semester for the best wiki project.
11. Students may need training in cross-institutional collaboration.



Advice and Guidelines

12. Can create cross-institutional wikibook communities with videoconferences.
13. Motivating students with internal and external incentives. Celebrate success! Identify exemplary work.



Advice and Guidelines

15. Be clear on assessment policies.
16. Consider grading reflection papers and group processes.



Wiki Wiki to it!

For More Information, Contact:

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